

Heyford Park School

KCV Mat for RE Year 3 Summer 2

Theme: Hinduism - pilgrimage to the River Ganges

Key Question: Would visiting the River Ganges feel special to a non-Hindu?



Cultural Capital

Invite in a Hindu visitor to discuss the importance of the pilgrimage in their lives.

Key Concept Questions

Would visiting the River Ganges feel special to a non-Hindu?

Would a non-Hindu find it special to visit the River Ganges? Why/why not?

What do Hindus do when they visit the river?

Key Knowledge

What is the River Ganges used for?	The Ganges is important to both residents and pilgrims. Hindus see the river as a goddess. Hindus believe that bathing in the river helps to cleanse the soul. People are baptised in the water and the ashes of people who have died are poured into the river. The river is also used for farming, washing and bathing.
What do Hindus believe about the River Ganges?	Hindus believe Brahman is in the water (a life source). People bathe in the river to wash away the wrong things they have done then will be pure/cleansed. Hindu legend says that the goddess of the Ganges, Ganga , was raised in the heavens and then came to earth and formed the river.
Where is the River Ganges?	The river Ganges starts high up in the Himalayan mountains and flows through the northern part of India into the Bay of Bengal.
Pilgrimage to the River Ganges.	Hindus try to make a visit to the River Ganges at least once in their lifetime so they can bathe in the waters. Many Hindus come during the festival Kumbh Mela.

Key Vocab

Definition

Brahman	There are many gods and goddesses in the Hindu faith, but the one true god is Brahman.
Pilgrimage	A religious journey to a place of significance.
Varanasi	A city on the banks of the River Ganges.
Omnipresent	God is present everywhere and in everything.